

Section 2 Project Planning

"Plans are nothing; Planning is everything"

Dwight D.Eisenhower –



How to Define a Project



REMINDING: A project is an unique set of activities designed to accomplish specific business goal(s).

A project has a defined:

- Beginning time
- Ending time
- Defined scope (or list of tasks)
- Assigned resources

How to Define a Project



What if management just says 'start'?

WHO are the users, beneficiaries, customers and the impacts to them?

WHAT are the business goals or objectives that this project will support?

WHY is the project being taken? Its purpose?

SCOPE exactly what is this project to do or accomplish?

SUCCESS CRITERIA what is the criteria that will meet customer expectations?

VALUE what is the business value (benefits, revenue, reduce costs ...) of the project?

Project Definition Document (PDD)



Before planning, make/collect/clarify the Project Definition Document (PDD)



- Purpose
- Goals/Objectives
- Success Criteria
- What's in/out of scope
- Assumptions
- Constraints

- Preliminary Estimates
- Preliminary Schedule
- Risks
- Stakeholders
- Policies and Standards

Prepare a summary presentation (PPTX) for each article \rightarrow Kick off Meeting Presentation

Example: Project Definition Document (PDD)



Purpose

Replace the current student enrollment system to increase enrollments

Goals and Objectives

- Improve student services
- Provide better financial management
- Avoid 'end of life' of old hardware

Success Criteria

- All data successfully migrated and accessible on the new system
- New system 'on line' by December 1st

Example: Project Definition Document (PDD)



What's in or out of scope

- In: student enrollment, financial management, cashier, A/R
- Out: sales, marketing, student grades

Assumptions

- Insufficient budget for adding IT staff
- No off-the-shelf solution available
- Must migrate legacy data

Constraints

- Project must begin by July 1st
- Data migration must be performed during summer (low usage) months

Example: Project Definition Document (PDD)



Stakeholders

- Dean of the University
- IT Operations Director
- Chief Financial Officer

Preliminary Schedule

- Project Planning: Jan 1
- Specification Development: Feb 1
- System Release 1: Apr 1

Preliminary Estimates

- Consulting: \$100K
- Infrastructure: \$150K
- Development: \$250K

Let's Check Our Work



- ✓ Is it clear why this project is being undertaken?
- ✓ Is the project scope clear and concise?
- ✓ Are the project stakeholders on-board and focused?
- ✓ Is the deliverable clearly and achievable?
- ✓ Are the potential risks clearly identified and responses planned?
- ✓ Have all stakeholders reviewed, agreed, and approved the project to move forward?





Build a Project Plan



The Essence of Project Planning

Project planning is a disciplined process for completing a project successfully



- Set objectives
- Identify deliverables
- Determine estimates
- Determine the schedule
- Apply resources



Project Plan

The entire set of documents that will be used for project execution and control

Project Planning Processes



MANIACED CUDIFOTS		PROJE	PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROCESS GROUPS							
MANAGED SUBJECTS	Initiating	Planning	Executing	Monitoring & Controlling	Closing					
Integration	10. Proposals and Estimates 11.Initiating project	20. Creating project policies 28. Creating project plans	30. Managing project work 31. Managing configurations	40. Monitoring and controlling project work 41. Change control	50. Closing the project					
Scope		22. Creating project WBS								
Time		23. Creating project schedule								
Cost		27. Develop project budget		45. Monitoring project budget						
Quality		24. Creating quality plan	34. Managing quality	42. Monitoring quality						
Human resources			32. Training the project team							
Communication		21. Defining <u>project</u> organization	22 Managing communication							
Stakeholder			33. Managing communication							
Risk		25. Planning <u>Risk</u> Management	35. Managing risk responses	43. Monitoring risks						
Procurement		26. Planning <u>procurements</u>		44. Managing procurements						



Core Elements



Implementation Elements

Step 1 – Validate PDD



- Assemble the team including the necessary subject matter experts you need to develop project plan.
- With the team, validate the contents of the project definition document (PDD)
 - This might lead to action items to update the plan (and usually does)
 - You may need to revisit requirements with stakeholders
 - Based on the time lag between the completion of the PDD and the planning process, you may need to revisit portions of the PDD
- Do forming the development team (2.1 Defining project organization)
- Team kickoff: Prepare Kick-off presentation slides and Do Project Kick-off Meeting
- Project Definition validated

Step 2 – Build the WBS

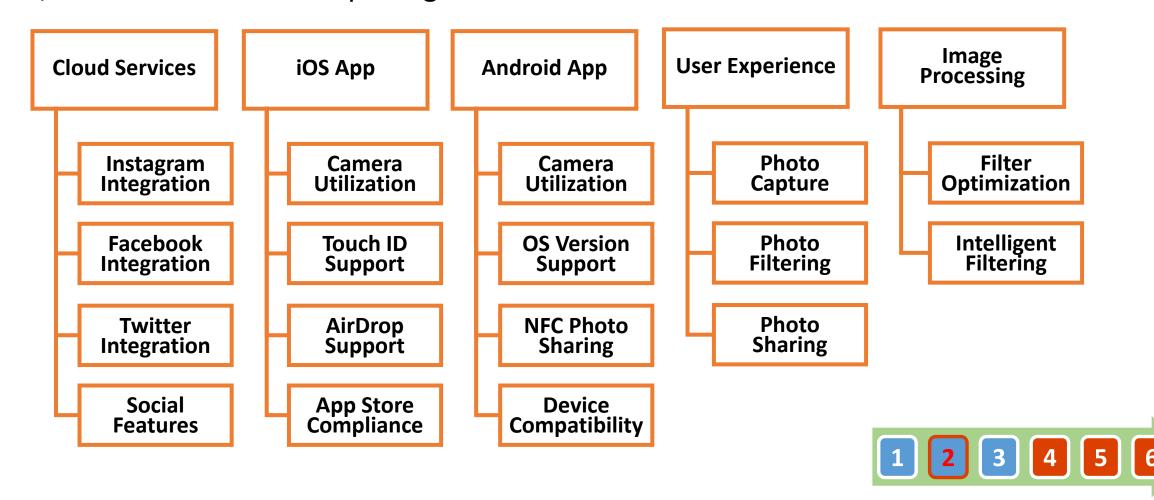


- Understand all of the work that needs to be done and itemize
- Use the WBS: work breakdown approach to document
 - **Decomposition**: divides project scope and deliverables into smaller, more manageable parts.
 - The lowest level of the WBS is the work package.
- A <u>WBS</u> shows each work package, and its work activities/tasks that, when executed, will fulfil the project deliverables as outlined in the PDD.
 - In fact, you should layout a list of well-described deliverables in the terms or words of the stakeholders, a little more business-oriented (even a non-technical party could easily understand what have been agreed in order to be produced in our project).
- 100% rule, ask this question: "if all of the work packages are completed will the project be complete?"
 - If not, then you are missing tasks
 - If yes, then you are complete.

Example: Work Breakdown Structure

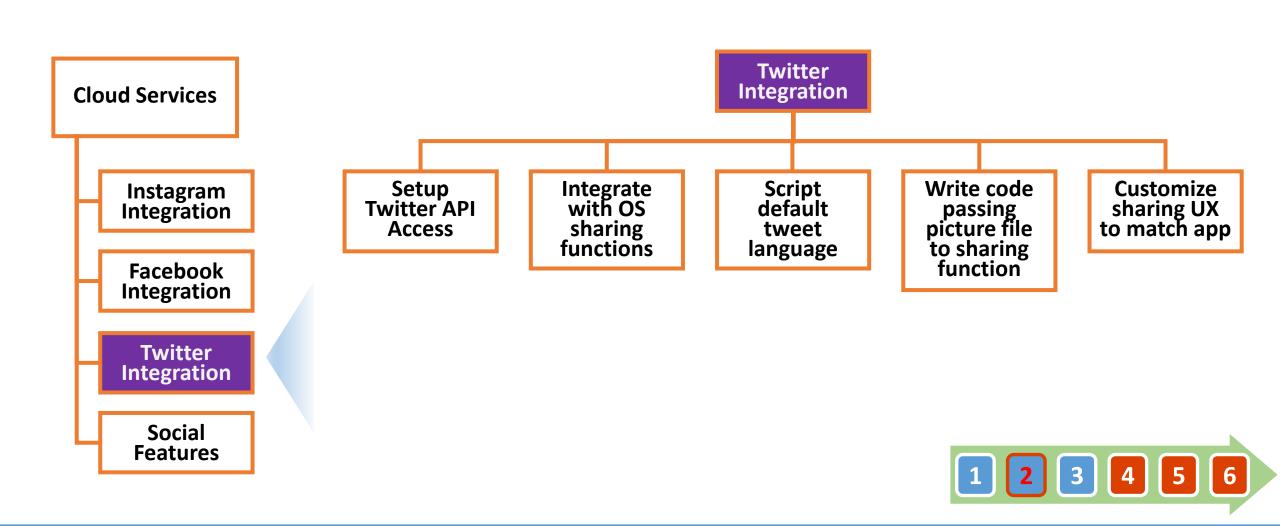


Hierarchical and incremental decomposition of the project into phases, deliverables and work packages



Example: Defining Activities from a Work Package





Example: The WBS List





Item # Description

Project Setup/Delivery Tasks

100.10 Setup new workspace and tools for project management

100.20 Setup the development environments

100.30 Add/modify additional tables/fields in database

100.40 Develop team kickoff: assignments

100.50 Generating QA builds and QA environement for testing

Development Tasks - Subsystem A

200.10 Develop the master page, CSS, bootstrap as a basic for dev

200.20 Develop the navigation, header, footer, logo, etc.

200.30 Develop the error pages - Group ID missing and valid

200.40 Private Label Usage and Support

200.50 Develop Registration landing page

200.60 Develop enrollment confirmation email / template / email out









Step 3 - Itemize the Acceptance Criteria



- Acceptance criteria (AC) are the conditions that a software product must meet to be accepted by a user, a customer, or other systems. They are unique for each deliverable and define the feature behavior from the end-user's perspective.
- Acceptance criteria main purposes:
 - Making the feature scope more detailed: AC define the boundaries of deliverables. They provide precise details on functionality that help the team understand whether the deliverable is completed and works as expected.
 - **Describing negative scenarios**: AC may require the system to recognize unsafe password inputs and prevent a user from proceeding further. Invalid password format is an example of a so-called negative scenario when a user does invalid inputs or behaves unexpectedly. AC define these scenarios and explain how the system must react to them.
 - **Setting communication:** AC synchronize the visions of the client and the development team. They ensure that everyone has a common understanding of the requirements: Developers know exactly what kind of behavior the feature must demonstrate
 - Streamlining acceptance testing: AC are the basis of acceptance testing of deliverables. Each acceptance criterion must be independently testable and thus have clear pass or fail scenarios..
 - Conducting feature evaluations: AC specify what exactly must be developed by the team. Once the team has precise requirements, they can split user stories into tasks that can be correctly estimated.
- Acceptance criteria can be phased.



Best Practices of Writing Acceptance Criteria



- Document criteria before development.
- Don't make AC too narrow.
- Keep your criteria achievable.
- Keep AC measurable and not too broad.
- Avoid technical details.
- Reach consensus.
- Write testable AC.
- Write in active voice, simple, concise sentences, first-person.
- Avoid negative sentences.

Acceptance Criteria Examples



- All use cases must be demonstrable.
- This feature set must be in production by May 1st.
- The users are trained and productive by September 15th.
- Student can register and pay for a class.
- An employee can register, login and select medical plans.
- Tip: system must perform all use cases and comply with the specification

Example: Itemize the Acceptance Criteria



Item #	Description	Acceptance Criteria
Project S	Setup/Delivery Tasks	
100.10	Setup new workspace and tools for project management	
100.20	Setup the development environments	
100.30	Add/modify additional tables/fields in database	
100.40	Develop team kickoff: assignments	
100.50	Generating QA builds and QA environement for testing	
Develop	oment Tasks - Subsystem A	
200.10	Develop the master page, CSS, bootstrap as a basic for dev	
200.20	Develop the navigation, header, footer, logo, etc	
200.30	Develop the error pages - Group ID missing and valid	
200.40	Private Label Usage and Support	
200.50	Develop Registration landing page	Student can register and pay for a class
200.60	Develop enrollment confirmation email / template / email out	An registered student can select and enroll medical plans

Step 4 - Itemize the Resources You Need



- Resources are usually people and tools, but may include other items
- For each WBS entry, identify:
 - Who will work that task
 - When they are needed
- In addition, you may need resource details:
 - Role description
 - Required skills
 - Training needs
 - Skill / experience level

Example: Itemize the Resources You Need



Item #	Description	Who	When
Project 100.10 100.20 100.30 100.40 100.50	Setup/Delivery Tasks Setup new workspace and tools for project management Setup the development environments Add/modify additional tables/fields in database Develop team kickoff: assignments Generating QA builds and QA environement for testing	PM TL TL/PS1 PM TS	1-Apr 1-Apr 14-Apr 14-Apr 1-May
Develor 200.10 200.20 200.30 200.40 200.50 200.60	Develop the master page, CSS, bootstrap as a basic for dev Develop the navigation, header, footer, logo, etc Develop the error pages - Group ID missing and valid Private Label Usage and Support Develop Registration landing page Develop enrollment confirmation email / template / email out	TBD PS1 PS2 PS3 PS4 PS5	21-Apr 21-Apr 6-May 12-May 1-May 1-May

Step 5 – Estimate the Work



- Prerequisites:
 - WBS complete
 - Resources assigned
- For each task make an estimate of hours based on the resource you have assigned.
- Use 'Confident Factor' to ensure completeness of each task.
- If you have assigned a generic resource (like 'software engineer' or 'TBD') that is OK

Example: Estimate the Work



Item #	Description	Who	Quoted Hours	Confident Factor	Estimated Hours	When
Project	Setup/Delivery Tasks					
100.10	Setup new workspace and tools for project management	PM	4	100%	4	1-Apr
100.20	Setup the development environments	TL	2	100%	2	1-Apr
100.30	Add/modify additional tables/fields in database	TL/PS1	40	80%	50	14-Apr
100.40	Develop team kickoff: assignments	PM	20	50%	40	14-Apr
100.50	Generating QA builds and QA environement for testing	TS	40	100%	40	1-May
Develop	oment Tasks - Subsystem A					
200.10	Develop the master page, CSS, bootstrap as a basic for dev	TBD	120	80%	150	21-Apr
200.20	Develop the navigation, header, footer, logo, etc	PS1	120	100%	120	21-Apr
200.30	Develop the error pages - Group ID missing and valid	PS2	20	80%	25	6-May
200.40	Private Label Usage and Support	PS3	5	100%	5	12-May
200.50	Develop Registration landing page	PS4	40	50%	80	1-May
200.60	Develop enrollment confirmation email / template / email out	PS5	40	100%	40	1-May
			451		556	









Step 6 – Develop a Schedule



- A project schedule will have start and end dates for each task
 - And ultimately the entire project
- Prerequisites for the scheduling process:
- WBS (all tasks)
 - Resources assigned
 - Estimates for each task
 - Confidence factor
 - Task relationships (dependencies)

Example: Develop a Schedule



Item #	Description	Who	Quoted Hours	Estimated Hours	When	Start Date	End Date	
Project	Project Setup/Delivery Tasks							
100.10	Setup new workspace and tools for project management	PM	4	4	1-Apr	1-Apr	1-Apr	
100.20	Setup the development environments	TL	2	2	1-Apr	1-Apr	1-Apr	
100.30	Add/modify additional tables/fields in database	TL/PS1	40	50	14-Apr	14-Apr	22-Apr	
100.40	Develop team kickoff: assignments	PM	20	40	14-Apr	14-Apr	21-Apr	
100.50	Generating QA builds and QA environement for testing	TS	40	40	1-May	1-May	7-May	
Develop	Development Tasks - Subsystem A							
200.10	Develop the master page, CSS, bootstrap as a basic for dev	TBD	120	150	21-Apr	21-Apr	17-May	
200.20	Develop the navigation, header, footer, logo, etc	PS1	120	120	21-Apr	21-Apr	12-May	
200.30	Develop the error pages - Group ID missing and valid	PS2	20	25	6-May	6-May	11-May	
200.40	Private Label Usage and Support	PS3	5	5	12-May	12-May	12-May	
200.50	Develop Registration landing page	PS4	40	80	1-May	1-May	14-May	
200.60	Develop enrollment confirmation email / template / email out	PS5	40	40	1-May	1-May	7-May	
					•			
			451	556		1-Apr	17-May	

Resource Load Example



		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Resource	Est. Hours	29-Mar	5-Apr	12-Apr	19-Apr	26-Apr	3-May	10-May	17-May	% On Project
PM	44	4		20	20					13.8%
TL	27	2		10	15					8.4%
TS	40						40			12.5%
PS1	145			10	37.5	37.5	37.5	22.5		45.3%
PS2	25						12.5	12.5		7.8%
PS3	5							5		1.6%
PS4	80						40	40		25.0%
PS5	40						40			12.5%
TBD	150				22.5	40	40	40	7.5	46.9%
TOTAL Hrs/Wk		6	0	40	95	77.5	210	120	7.5	
WKLY CUM	556	6	6	46	141	218.5	428.5	548.5	556	



Key Supporting Project Planning Elements

- There are many other supporting planning elements to consider and include
- These other planning elements are more 'around' the <u>process</u> of running the project – aka. <u>project control</u> and <u>execution</u>.
- How will you do:
 - Project status reporting?
 - Requirements management?
 - Quality management?
 - Change management?
 - Is there more?





















Communication and Reporting:

- Communication roadmap:
 - Determine what information you need to provide
 - Determine the form and content of that information
 - Determine the source of data for that information
 - Determine who you need to provide it to
 - Determine how often you will provide it
 - Determine how to monitor and measure that information
- Gather stakeholder information and communication preferences
- Set your regular communication types, schedules and goals:
 - Standup meeting
 - Daily report emails
 - Weekly email reports
 - Project status/progress meetings
 - Major milestone meetings
 - Closure Report



Requirements Management

How to:

- Define Requirement Life Cycle in the project
 - Trace requirements
 - Prioritize requirements
 - Maintain requirements
 - Baseline requirements
 - Assess requirement changes
- Define standards, methodology and approach, tools and template.
- Maintain deliverable needs, scope, viewpoint of stakeholders
- Manage project success criteria, UAT viewpoints.
- Manage deliveries



Quality Management

Define:

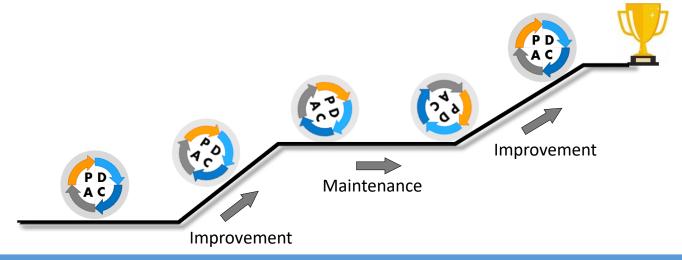
- Quality Control Gates in Development Life Cycle of the project
 - Quality metrics, LCL and UCL of each metric
 - Review/control scheduling and milestones
 - Completion Criteria: determine if pass/fail the gate
- Inspection/review and audit methods/processes
- Preparations for quality analysis:
 - Analysis methods
 - Quality category structure
 - Cost of quality
- Standards, Conventions, Checklists and Tools applied

Tips for Project Planning





- Be sure project objectives are aligned with the business
- Develop realistic scope, estimates and schedules
- Secure the necessary resources
- Your plans must include the project control elements
- Execute your project by following your plan
- Ensure the stakeholders are on board and keep them on board





Importance of The Project Definition

Deliverables and Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)

Acceptance Criteria

Resources and Estimates

Scheduling and Resource Loading

Elements of Project Control